

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CU-04 STR-08 CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

MBFR-03 GAC-01 ACDA-19 IO-12 OIC-04 EB-11 SCI-06

TRSE-00 OMB-01 RSR-01 /160 W
----- 029270

R 270800 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5839

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

ALL CSCE CAPITALS 157

USMISSION BERLIN

USEC BRUSSELS 354

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 0786

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: MARCH 26 WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC
COOPERATION ISSUES

1. SUMMARY. HUNGARY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND GDR RESPEC-
TIVELY TABLED ECONOMIC COOPERATION MANDATE LANGUAGE ON
ALL- EUROPEAN PROJECTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND
ENVIRONMENT. GDR URGED EARLY PROGRESS TOWARDS DRAFTING.
SEVERAL WESTERN DELS REITERATED THAT " PRINCIPLES" OF
MFN AND NON- DISCRIMINATION ARE NOT RPT NOT RIPE FOR
CSCE DISCUSSION. END SUMMARY.

2. IN CONCERTED EFFORT TO ACCELERATE WORK ON BASKET TWO
ISSUES, HUNGARY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND GDR RESPECTIVELY
TABLED COMPROMISE ECONOMIC COOPERATION MANDATE LANGUAGE
ON ALL- EUROPEAN PROJECTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND
ENVIRONMENT (FULL TEXTS SEPTTEL). EASTERN LANGUAGE ON
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT WON FAVORABLE
INITIAL COMMENT FROM SOME WESTERN AND NEUTRAL DELS WHILE
THEY EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS CONCERNING HUNGARIAN PROPOSAL
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FOR ALL- EUROPEAN ECONOMIC PROJECTS. GDR REP POINTEDLY SUGGESTED THAT DELS BRING " SHARPENED PENCILS" TO MARCH 27 WORKING GROUP IN ORDER BEGIN DRAFTING PROCESS AND FACILITATE MOVEMENT TO DISCUSSION OF BASKET THREE ISSUES AT MARCH 28 PLENARY SESSION.

CERNED BY RECENT BUILD- UP OF 1-2 BATTALIONS OF KENYAN TROOPS AT LIBO (4055 EAST, 0025 NORTH). SOMALIS STATE PERMANENT BARRACKS AND AIR STRIP HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTED AT THIS POST WHICH ONLY FIVE MILES FROM SOMALI BORDER.

4. MILATT STATED HE BELIEVED MORALE AND LOYALTY OF SOMALI FORCES HAD DETERIORATED IN LAST FEW MONTHS. HE SENSED MORE GRUMBLING AGAINST REGIME, OFTEN COUCHED IN ANTI- SOVIET FRAME- WORK. MILITARY ALSO CONCERNED AT LACK OF SOMALI RESPONSE TO ETHIOPIAN TROOP MOVEMENTS. MILATT NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT WORD " ETHIOPIA" WAS STILL SUFFICIENT TO SILENCE GRUMBLING AND UNIFY MILITARY AGAINST SOMALIA' S TRADITIONAL ENEMY.

5. MILATT SAID THAT 25 NEW SOVIET TANKS (T-34 S) HAD BEEN DELIVERED THROUGH BERBERA AND THAT FORMER SINGLE TANK BATTALION IN SOMALI NORTHERN SECTOR NOW SPLIT INTO TWO BATTALIONS EACH EQUIPPED WITH 30 TANKS (PREVIOUS BATTALION HAD 40 TANKS).

6. ASKED ABOUT NUMBER OF SOVIET ADVISERS, MILATT REPLIED HE UNSURE OF TOTAL NUMBER BUT GUESSED NUMBER NOW 400-500. HE THOUGHT THIS NUMBER EXTREMELY HIGH FOR SOMALI UNITS AND THAT SOMALIS KNEW THIS AND GRUMBLED ABOUT EXCESSIVE NUMBER OF SOVIETS WHO KEPT GETTING IN WAY.

7. MILATT CONFIRMED SOVIET CONSTRUCTION UNDER WAY OF NEW AIRPORT AT BERBERA APPROXIMATELY TWO MILES WEST OF PRESENT AIRPORT AND OPPOSITE NEW PORT. HE ESTIMATED COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION IN FOUR- TO- FIVE MONTHS.

8. MILATT HAD NO REPORTS OF SOMALI TROOP MOVEMENTS TOWARD BORDER. HE THOUGHT GSDR BELIEVED PRESENT POSITIONING OF SOMALI TROOPS WAS ADEQUATE.

9. ASIDE FROM TANKS AND FOUR IL-28 BOMBERS, HE HAS NO NEWS
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OF ANY RECENT SOVIET MILITARY DELIVERIES. HE STILL CONSIDERS SOMALI ARMY INCAPABLE OF ANY SUSTAINED ACTION AGAINST ETHIOPIA.
LOORAM UNQUOTE ROGERS

SECRET

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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